

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4921

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE ?

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16146

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, RO, UR

SUBJECT: REPORTED SOVIET-ROMANIAN SCRAP AT MEETING
OF COMMUNIST SECRETARIES

REF: A. MOSCOW 15952

B. BUCHAREST 4683

1. ROMANIAN EMBASSY SOURCE, CLAIMING TO HAVE BEEN
BRIEFED BY ANDREI (ONE OF ROMANIAN CC SECRETARIES
AT DECEMBER 18-19 IDEOLOGICAL MEETING OF NINE RULING
COMMUNIST PARTIES -- REFTEL A), TELLS US THAT MEETING
PRODUCED SHARP DISSENSIONS BETWEEN ROMANIANS AND SOVIETS.

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ACCORDING SOURCE, ROMANIANS REFUSED TO SIGN FINAL

SECRET PROTOCOL. HE IDENTIFIED TW MAJOR ISSUES. FIRST WAS SOVIET EFFORT TO EFFECT CLOSE COORDINATION OF FOREIGN PROPAGANDA LINE; EFFORT INCLUDED SOVIET PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH BLOC JOURNALS, INCLUDING A MAGAZINE PUBLISHED BY CEMA MEMBERS. SECOND ISSUE WAS INCLUSION IN PROTOCOL OF ASSERTION THAT IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE MUST BE WAGED AGAINST "CHINESE LEADERS."

2. ROMANIANS, ACCORDING SOURCE, ALSO REFUSED TO SIGN GREETINGS WHICH CP SECRETARIES (AT POLISH SUGGESTION) TRANSMITTED TO BREZHNEV ON OCCASION OF HIS 67TH BIRTHDAY DECEMBER 19. PROBLEM WAS NOT GREETINGS THEMSELVES BUT FACT THAT TEXT INCLUDED STATEMENT OF UNSWERVING SUPPORT FOR SOVIET POLICIES.

3. COMMENT. THIS REPORT INDICATES THAT ROMANIANS GAVE SOVIETS A ROUGH TIME AT MEETING AND PUTS IN EVEN SHARPER FOCUS CEAUSESCU'S WARM BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO MAO (REFTEL B). REPORT ALSO LEADS SOME SUBSTANCE TO SPECULATION THAT CEAUSESCU'S EARLY RETURN FROM U.S. MAY HAVE BEEN OCCASIONED BY DIFFERENCES WITH SOVIET UNION. OUR ROMANIAN SOURCE PROFESSED IGNORANCE ABOUT REASON FOR SHORTENING OF VISIT, BUT HE DID NOT TRY TO REFUTE OUR SPECULATION THAT SOVIET-ROMANIAN PROBLEMS MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE. SOMMERLATTE

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